Amendments to the Claims:

C1

1. (Previously Amended) A method of determining the optimal level of product expression in animal cell culture wherein the concentration of a solute of interest in a culture medium composition for optimal product expression is different than the concentration of said solute in the culture medium composition determined for optimal cell growth, which method comprises:

a) growing the animal cell culture in a culture medium to determine optimal cell growth;

b) varying the concentration of the solute in the culture medium to a concentration above that optimal for cell growth, which concentration is effective to create an environment of solute stress on the cell culture as expressed by an inhibitory effect on cell growth or cell density of said cell culture;

c) monitoring the product expression as concentration of the solute is varied in the culture medium to determine optimal product expression; and

d) selecting the solute concentration that provides the optimal combination of cell growth and product expression, which allows for optimal productivity.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1 where said animal cell culture is a mammalian cell culture.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said mammalian cell culture is a hybridoma cell culture that expresses monoclonal antibodies.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the hybridoma cell culture produces IgM or IgG monoclonal antibodies.

Received from < > at 7/25/03 2:56:24 PM [Eastern Daylight Time]

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said monoclonal antibodies are human or murine ~~monoceonal~~ monoclonal antibodies.

7-38 (Canceled)

C1
Conclude

Received from < > at 7/25/03 2:56:24 PM [Eastern Daylight Time]